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Brooklyn Zoo co-owner Geronimo Frias does his best Tarzan impersonation.

Jump start Parkour studio's second try

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

The Williamsburg freestyle walking studio that shuttered suddenly in December is back up and running with a new name and new ownership.

The parkour park, formerly Bklyn Beast, now Brooklyn Zoo, will employ some of the same instructors and hopes to win back many of its former students.

"There is a huge following of people who are waiting to come back and train," said co-owner Masai James, who was also co-owner of Bklyn Beast.

Parkour is a sport like skateboarding without a skateboard,

or gymnastics performed in the streets, with the studio serving as a kind of funhouse for practitioners to hone their moves.

This go-round, James has teamed up with Donna Barrett, who owns the Bogart Street warehouse and built the massive obstacle course for the previous business. The pair say Bklyn Beast ended in a swirl of infighting capped by a massive party that went bad and they are hoping to turn over a new leaf with the latest incarnation.

James met Barrett two years ago when James taught her kids to tumble at Chelsea Piers. Barrett then offered up the ware-

See ZOO on page 6



Atlantic Avenue is still living up to its title of "Avenue of Death and Destruction." The first 12 blocks logged 843 crashes during the last two years.

CRASH COURSE

Atlantic Avenue just as dangerous nine years later

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

Atlantic Avenue is less deadly but even more destructive than it was nearly a decade ago, when The Brooklyn Paper first dubbed it "The Avenue of Death and Destruction," and the city is finally taking notice.

The city chose the dangerous thoroughfare to be among the first in line for the car-slowing treatment as part of Mayor DeBlasio's Vision Zero push, which aims to bring traffic deaths to zero by 2024.

"We cannot wait for any more fatalities," said Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo (D-Fort Greene) at a press conference last week. "Vision



Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo says that Atlantic Avenue needs a heaping dose of Vision Zero car-slowing measures, stat. The city says the treatment is top priority.



Zero needs to happen now."

City data compiled by our crack number-crunching team shows that there were a horrifying 843 crashes along the stretch of road between the harbor and Flatbush Avenue during the past two years, up from 583 during a 22-month period in 2005 and 2006. The recent slew of collisions average out to more than one per day and caused a total of 173 injuries and one death, down from nine deaths

between 2006 and 2008, but tragic nonetheless.

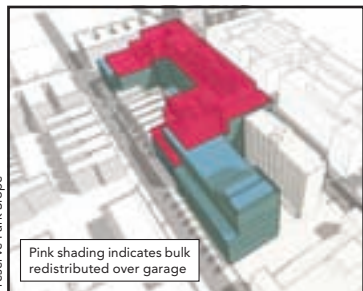
And preventable, road-safety advocates argue.

"This announcement brings long-overdue attention to a corridor plagued by traffic violence and reckless driving," said Paul Steely White, executive director of the group Transportation Alternatives, in a statement.

The mayor's Vision Zero push calls for overhauls to 50 corridors and intersections each year, including changes to street designs, stoplights, and speed limits. In response to the announcement last week by roads czar and recent Cobble Hill transplant Polly Trottenberg that Atlantic is at the top of her list, activist organizations including Transportation Alternatives called for such measures as a protected bike path and a dedicated-lane bus route along the unruly roadway.

One resident cited the intersection at Flatbush Avenue, where Atlantic widens heading away from the water and where 71 crashes occurred last year, as a prime candidate for a rejiggering.

See CRASH on page 12



The anti-expansion group Preserve Park Slope thinks Methodist should build some of its proposed facility above a nearby parking garage.

Protesters get proactive

Methodist opponents unveil alternative expansion plan

By Megan Riesz
The Brooklyn Paper

A team of Park Slope Poindexters has come up with its own plan for the expansion of New York Methodist Hospital that its leaders say will trade the hospital's mountain for an easier-to-swallow molehill.

Members of Preserve Park Slope, a group of Slopers who think the hospital's plan to expand will inundate the neighborhood with traffic, smog and out-of-place architecture, have put together an alternate plan that lowers the building's roof by 45 feet by shifting a portion of the building's bulk to an attached parking garage.

An architect who lent his drafting skills to the cause said the benefits of the elaborate counter-proposal, which brings the top of the compound closer to the four-story roof-line of the townhouses on the block, will force hospital officials to consider the plan.

See METHODIST on page 6

Squabble over 'bid rigging' at LICH

By Megan Riesz
The Brooklyn Paper

The state and anti-Long Island College Hospital-closure activists have reached a new legal agreement after the advocates say the state tried to rig the hospital redevelopment bidding process.

Officials tried to mislead appointed experts who are supposed to score each of the nine plans without conferring with anyone, according to the community groups who sued the state to halt the closure of the 156-year-old Cobble Hill institution. Lawyers for the activists threatened to sue again when they got wind of the alleged jury tampering,



Jim Walden blew the whistle on what he said was state jury tampering in picking a developer to buy Long Island College Hospital.

in which state officials allegedly told the evaluators falsehoods about the viability of some plans that call for full-service hospitals, which the activists want to be picked.

"Guidance provided by [the State University of New York] and [the Department of Health] to the [evaluation committee] that would result in lower scores to full-service hospitals, if true, may be seen as an effort to undercut the framework of our settlement, which is to issue a new [Request for Proposals] with the aim of finding a full-service hospital," said

lawyer Jim Walden, who represents six community groups, in a March 26 letter to state lawyers.

Walden claimed that state reps gave evaluators bogus information during a March 24 phone call, impugning some full-service plans on the basis that it would take about 163 days for companies who do not have hospital operating licenses to obtain them, but not mentioning a law that says the state could award a temporary license to whoever takes over the medical facility. The lawyers got wind of the call from a

See LICH on page 5



Activists: Evict housing court Hall too cramped and rented from slumlord, they say

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

Hey hey! Ho ho! Housing court has got to go!

That is the rallying cry of tenant advocates who say the hall's small size prevents justice from being served and the city should stop renting it from a notorious slumlord when its lease runs out at the end of May. In addition to be-

ing owned by a real estate tycoon who landed on Mayor DeBlasio's list of worst landlords in the city back when he was public advocate, the building where building owners and tenants go to settle scores is too small and ill-equipped for the hordes who come each day.

"It's a horror story down there," said Delcina Biggs, a tenant leader with the Pratt Area Community Council who

spent four years fighting a spurious eviction in the court. "The building is inadequate. That's the bottom line."

Housing court handles cases involving building owners and tenants, both for potential evictions and for tenants trying to force their landlords to make building repairs, though activists argue that system's slant in favor

See COURT on page 11



Vidal Hernandez of East New York is duking it out with his landlord in housing court.



The aftermath of the altercation at New China Star restaurant that left a teen girl bloody and in handcuffs.

Window pain! Cop and teen send glass flying at Downtown Chinese restaurant

By Nathan Tempey
The Brooklyn Paper

A teen girl and a cop shattered the window of a Downtown Chinese restaurant during an altercation that left the youngster and her best friend in handcuffs last week, cops and witnesses said.

The two 15-year-olds were hanging out with a group of friends at New China Star on Lawrence Street around 3:50 pm last Thursday when two school safety agents walked in and a manager asked them to make all of the 15-20 rowdy kids inside

See WINDOW on page 11



James "Jay" Ott

Designer vanishes

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Police are searching for a fashion designer who vanished from his home in Williamsburg's McKibbin Lofts on March 22.

Friends say they last saw James "Jay" Ott that evening and that he was captured on a surveillance video entering his building at about 10 pm.

"Jay's family and friends are ex-

tremely concerned and anxious to receive any word regarding Jay's health and safety," said his pal and co-worker Beatrice Kim. "His health and safety are our primary concern. If he is seeking help and confidentiality is a concern, we understand, but we would love to hear that he is safe."

Friends described Ott, 31, as 6-feet-2 with thin, light-brown hair and blue

See MISSING on page 5

MISSING
IN WILLIAMSBURG

Three months lost

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Police are searching for a man who disappeared without a trace from his Williamsburg apartment in January.

Carlos Taveras' family have not seen him since Jan. 4, cops said. His family did not report him missing until Feb. 20 because he has a habit of leaving for short periods of time without telling his family, a police spokesman said.

Taveras, who lives on S. 10th Street, is described as six feet tall, 180 pounds, and was last seen wearing a green jacket, beige pants and carrying a green army bag. He also suffers from epilepsy and needs medication, police said.

In the month since Taveras' family reported him missing, there has been no sign of him, the authorities reported.

Cops are asking anyone with information to call (718) 963-5368.



Carlos Taveras



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BROOKLYN NETS COVERAGE

Fresh legs to help in playoffs

FRONT COURT

By Tom Lafe

The Nets, current holders of the fifth seed in the Eastern Conference, have work to do in the next 10 games to make sure that when April 19 rolls around, the team isn't standing in the same spot.

Since the start of 2014, the Nets are an astounding 20–2 at the Barclays Center. During that same span, they are 10–10 on the road.

Those splits sure seem to indicate that it would behoove the Nets to secure a home playoff series.

But, as we saw last year,

home-court isn't everything. The Nets got run out of Brooklyn in game seven by a much tougher Chicago Bulls team.

Nothing is to say that won't happen again, but the Nets have taken strides to ensure that no team will out-tough its players again. The offseason additions of Kevin Garnett and Andrei Kirilenko shored up the front-line with grit and veteran experience — something the team sorely lacked in last year's first-round flameout. Both Garnett and Kirilenko have missed significant time this season, but both are due back in the next week or so, just prior to the start of the playoffs, ensuring that KG will be more rested for the playoffs than the Nets could



Associated Press / John Minichillo

The Nets need a healthy and rested Kevin Garnett if the team want to make a successful playoff run.

have ever hoped.

Kirilenko was always projected as a role-player coming off the bench, but after only having played in 37 games this season due to various injuries, his fresh legs will no doubt provide valuable minutes to the Nets come the postseason.

With those two players contributing — and, of course, home-court advantage — I like the Nets' chances against the Bulls' stingy defense, or the inexperience of the Raptors or Wizards.

Tom Lafe is a 6-foot-5 sports-world insider with a middling high school basketball career who believes the Nets will be driven by the success of the team's big men.

This nickname should stick!

BACK COURT

By Matt Spolar

It is time to start calling him “Joe Cool.”

Joe Johnson, Brooklyn's star with the smooth name and silky game, has long been an easy target for nicknames, but none have ever become definitive. Earlier this year, Kevin Garnett dubbed him “Joe Jesus,” which so perfectly summarized Joe's career, it seemed it couldn't be topped.

“He might not be there when you call on him, but he's there when you need him,” Garnett said.

That's been the line on Joe during his 12 years in the league, and in his first season with the Nets last year it was taken to extremes. Despite shooting a putrid 42.3 percent in 2012–13, he had an otherworldly ability to come through in the clutch, hitting nine of 10 field goals in the game's final minute with a score differential of three points or less.

Things didn't appear to improve much this season, but then something changed. In the past month, Joe Johnson no longer looks like just



Associated Press / Bill Kestroun

No player on the Nets is cooler than Joe Johnson, says our columnist.

“Joe Jesus.” He has become “Joe Cool” — the guy who nonchalantly drops buckets all game like it is, y'know, his job. “Joe Cool” doesn't necessarily appear to be on fire when he is playing well, and the team doesn't look to him as a leader or momentum shifter. But just when you notice he is having a nice

night, you look up to see he already has 20 points.


In March, Johnson shot nearly 50 percent from the field en route to 17 points per game. For the week of March 17–23, he was named Eastern Conference Player of the Week, seeming to retroactively justify his dubious inclusion on the East's All-

Star team in February. Finally, the clock doesn't have to be running down for Joe to hit his shots.

Johnson's newfound dominance was encapsulated in his 32-point abusing of Houston Rockets star James Harden on Tuesday. In this column, Joe has been dogged by the nickname “Iso Joe” for his tendency to take players one-on-one and slow the Nets' offense to a crawl. Multiple times against Houston, the Nets incorporated a wrinkle that capitalized on the efficiency of Joe's recent shooting and his love of going one-on-one — instead of Joe creating a one-on-one situation by himself with his teammates nearby, the Nets created a designed isolation for him by clearing out to one side of the floor and letting Joe operate on the other. And the shots kept falling.

So enough about “Iso Joe,” “Joe Jesus,” whatever — it is “Joe Cool” from here on out. Hopefully, Mr. Johnson keeps playing well enough to make this one stick.

Matt Spolar is a nearly 6-foot-1 journalist with a middling high school basketball career who is sure the Nets win thanks to team's top-tier guards.



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Panhandler turns robber

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown

Cops cuffed a 30-year-old woman who they say tried to steal a personal audio player from a guy who was about to give her money on Gold Street on March 20.

Police said the suspect stopped a 23-year-old at the corner of Sands Street at 3:20 am and asked him for money. As he looked for cash to give her, the lady reached into his pocket and took his music player, according to a report.

Cops showed up, slapped bracelets on the lass, and found the device on her along with a crack pipe, officers said.

Stand clear

A 47-year-old man was arrested for fighting with a police officer who asked him not to hold the train doors at the Borough Hall station on March 17, according to authorities.

The cop was on the 2 and 3 train platform responding to a call about a suspicious package at 4 pm, when the train conductor of a Manhattan-bound 2 train called for assistance, according to a police report. The conductor told the cop that a man was holding the doors, and when he asked him to stop, the accused refused, a report said.

“I will f--- you up, officer, if you try and take me off,” the fellow supposedly said.

As the lawman approached, the guy kicked him in the wrist, then resisted arrest when the cop tried to take him into custody, officers stated. The cop was treated at New York Methodist Hospital, a report says.

Gun grab

Police arrested two teens for a robbery on March 23, but not before one of them tried to grab an officer's gun during a struggle inside the Farragut Houses, cops said.

Officers were investigating a robbery in a building on York Street between Navy and Gold streets at 2:15 pm when they saw two youngsters who fit the description of the jackers, authorities said. When the officers approached, the teens tried to run, according to a report.

The cops caught up to the pair and the 18-year-old tried

to grab the firearm during a scuffle while the 15-year-old refused to be handcuffed and lashed out at them, the report says.

Contempt

Police arrested a 23-year-old woman after a courtroom outburst inside the halls of justice on Livingston Street on March 18, cops said.

The lady yelled curses in the courtroom between Smith Street and Boerum Place at 12:53 pm, officers reported. When cops responded, she resisted arrest, flailing her arms and punching at the officers, according to a report.

Crowd-sourced

A pickpocket snagged a guy's wallet aboard a crowded F train on March 15, cops said.

The 34-year-old victim reported he boarded the train at W. Fourth Street at 2:55 pm and, just before the Jay Street–MetroTech station he got bumped hard. The shove made him feel uncomfortable, but he could not turn around to see who did it because the train was too crowded, he said.

The unlucky sap exited the subway at Smith–Ninth Street at 3:23 pm and received a notification on his phone saying that his bank card was being used near Jay Street, according to a police report. That is when the poor fellow noticed his wallet missing and, with it, \$400 cash and debit and credit cards, cops said.

Loosey Vuitton

A brand-aware bandit snagged a pricey Louis Vuitton bag from an unlocked car on Montague Street on March 17, cops said.

The 58-year-old victim told cops he parked his 2011 Lincoln between Clinton and Henry streets at 7:20 pm and ran into a nearby pharmacy, leaving the auto unlocked. When he returned 20 minutes later, the designer bag was gone, he said. The bag is worth \$3,200, cops reported.

Auto-ritative

A crafty crook stole a man's car after taking an official tone on Water Street on March 17, police said.

The 22-year-old victim said he was sitting in his 1997 Toyota Camry between Pearl and Jay streets at 3:20 am when the swindler came up to the window.

“What are you doing

POLICE BLOTTER

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over here?” he supposedly demanded.

The victim replied that he was working and then the trickster asked him to step out of the vehicle, according to a police report. The confused car owner stepped out, leaving the engine running, and the two got into a “slight tussle,” cops said. The victim went around the corner for help and, when he returned, the car was gone, authorities reported.

Sands of crime

A teen robbed a lady at gunpoint in broad daylight on March 19 on Sands Street, cops said.

The 23-year-old-victim told cops she was walking in the Farragut Houses complex, between Navy and Gold streets, at 12:15 pm when the young goon came up from behind and stopped in front of her. The rascal flashed a silver handgun, police stated, “Give me everything,” the scoundrel supposedly said.

The woman gave over her cellphone and headphones, but the punk wanted more, according to a report. The scoundrel demanded money, or, else, but fled without it, cops said.

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene–Clinton Hill

Low mein

Two goons robbed a Chinese-food delivery man of his food and cash on Monument Walk on March 24, authorities said.

The 35-year-old delivery guy told police he went to drop off food at an apartment in the Ingersoll Houses near Park Avenue at 10:50 pm, when two men threatened him with a gun and made him fork over his food, and \$308 in hard-earned cash.

Bad math

A lowlife tried to pay for his sandwich at a Classon Avenue deli using a one-dollar bill on March 28, then demanded that the clerk give him \$20 in change, police reported.

A worker said the guy ordered a sandwich from the deli between Putnam and Gates avenues at 6:39 am, and tried to pay a measly buck. The lout told him he had given him a \$20, and demanded that he return it, cops said.

The deli man saw a black handgun in the tough guy's pocket and forked over the bigger bill, according to authorities. The goon took off with his \$19 haul down Clason towards Fulton Street, a report says.

Three-on-one

A trio of toughs tried and failed to rob a guy on Waverly Avenue on March 28, cops said.

The 34-year-old victim was between Gates Avenue and Fulton Street at 2:25 pm when someone came up from behind, put him in a chokehold and threw him to the ground, police reported.

A second and then a third brute approached and tried to grab the guy's phone, headphones, and bag but could not, according to a report. The victim's phone broke in the struggle, and the three galoots took off towards Fulton Street, cops said.

Stung

Police cuffed a 17-year-old who they say tried to steal a phone from the backpack of an undercover cop in a sting operation at the Fulton Street G station on March 26.

Cops said their guy was standing in the station with a phone in the mesh pocket of his knapsack at 3:32 pm. They arrested the teen after seeing him bump into the decoy, reach into the pocket, and take the phone, police said.

Survival tactic

A crook swiped survival gear from a fellow's unlocked car on Waverly Place on March 25, according to authorities.

The 36-year-old victim reported he was unloading the vehicle between Flushing and Park avenues at 7 pm and left the car unlocked, according to a report. When he came outside, his backpack, which contained two phones, a mini-survival-kit, and a fleece hat, had vanished from inside the car, police said.

Double trouble

A crafty crook jumped a fence and stole two bikes from a backyard on Wilmoughby Street on March 26, police stated.

The 41-year-old victim told police he had two Montague folding mountain bikes on a rack behind his building, between Fleet and Ashland places. The cyclist found his rides missing on March 28 and a camera showed some-

one hopping the fence and swiping the compact bikes on March 26 at 2 am, according to authorities.

— Matthew Perlman

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook

Bandit caught

Cops cuffed a guy who they say robbed a bank of hundreds of dollars on Court Street on March 19.

The 33-year-old handed the teller bank between Third and Fourth places a note around 5:30 pm, police said. The teller gave \$486 in cash to the accused, who left and scrambled down Court Street, according to cops.

The man was arrested on W. 23rd Street on March 26, police stated.

Best fiend

A man was arrested who threatened to kill his acquaintance with a knife on Henry Street on March 25, cops said.

The 35-year-old suspect got into an argument with a 26-year-old fellow near W. Ninth Street around 5 pm, according to a police report. The accused then threatened to shank his pal, according to a report.

The officers collared the guy 15 minutes later and charged him with menacing, harassment, and possession of a weapon.

Less tough now

Cops collared two teens who they say robbed a schoolboy on Henry Street on March 24.

The 17-year-old victim was between Third and Fourth places on his way home from school when the two suspected scoundrels cornered him and took \$10 from his wallet, according to police.

The 16-year-olds have forced the boy to fork over \$1,720 since January, cops said.

Officers busted the boys inside the school on March 24 at 11:29 am and charged them with robbery and grand larceny, a report states.

Car raid

A cretin smashed open a man's car parked on Hicks Street sometime between March 25 and March 27, authorities said.

The 28-year-old victim said he left his white Audi near Bay Street on March 25 at 10 pm and, when he returned two days later at 5:40 pm, the driver's-side window was shattered and the passenger door was ajar.

The scoundrel took two headlights, a child booster seat, the driver's-side door handle, two black headrests, and a radio, according to cops.

Bike bandit

A fiend made off with a man's bicycle from the corner of Smith and Third streets between March 19 and March 21, police said.

The 42-year-old victim reported he locked his ride to a lamppost around 11:30 on March 19 and, when he returned two days later, the 18-speed was gone.

— Megan Riesz

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights

Smoked 'em

Cops picked up two men who they say stuck a woman up for a pack of cigarettes on 76th Street on March 29.

The victim told police the accused came up to her near Fourth Avenue at 3:25 am—one from in front, the other behind.

The first allegedly flashed a firearm and demanded cash.

But all the woman had to give was a box of cancer sticks, cops said.

The two suspects allegedly swiped the smokes and scrambled—but cops collared them moments later.

Shopping spree

A burglar busted into a 67th Street grocery store on March 24 and made off with \$84,000 in cash, police reported.

Security cameras recorded the bandit breaking into the side-gate near Fort Hamilton Parkway at 1 am, smashing open the safe, and stealing the dough, according to authorities.

Knock, knock

A lowlife kicked open the front door of a 72nd Street home on March 24 and pilaged the premises, according to cops.

The victim said he left his home near Ridge Boulevard at 11:30 am and returned later to discover his entryway busted open and his cash, laptop, and cellphone missing.

— Will Bredderman

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint–Northside

No Romeo

A lout stole a phone from a woman when she refused to go home with him on Metropolitan Avenue on March 26, authorities said.

The victim said she went on a date with the guy and, at the end of the night, he turned cretinous because she did not want to spend the night.

While they were standing between Union Avenue at 1:15 am, the galoot grabbed her phone out of her hand and ran into the subway, she told police.

Gun show

A pair of villains held a man up at gunpoint on Jackson Street on March 24 and stole his iPhone, cops said.

The victim told police that he was near Manhattan Avenue on his way home at 9:15 pm when a man in his 20s walked up from behind him and grabbed his mobile device. The victim tried to fight back and struggled to get his phone until another bandit showed up from across the street and pointed a gun at him, officers stated.

The victim gave up the phone and scrambled, officials stated.

No etiquette

A thief walked into a Bedford Avenue restaurant on March 28 and stole \$20 in cash from the tip jar, police reported.

The manager of the eatery between N. Sixth and N. Seventh streets said the thief came in at 9:30 pm, grabbed the cash, and skedaddled.

The manager chased the rapscalellion and caught up to him at Metropolitan and Union avenues, where the bandit flashed a knife, prompting the bosso to give up his pursuit, cops said.

Sneak thief

A prowler crept into a N. Seventh Street home on March 28 and stole a purse off of a kitchen table while the victim was sleeping and her boyfriend was watching TV, according to cops.

The victim's boyfriend reported he was watching television in the living room of the home between Kent and White avenues at 11 pm when he heard a noise in the kitchen.

He went to investigate and found his girlfriend's bag—which held her hat, credit card, and books—missing.

90TH PRECINCT

Southside–Bushwick

Con Ed con

A con man claiming to be a Con Edison employee called a Clymer Street business owner and convinced him to fork over money, supposedly to avoid getting his electricity shut off, on March 26, cops said.

The victim told police that the chiseler called the business between Bedford Avenue and Division Street at 2 pm and told him to send a \$364 in a pre-paid cash card within half an hour, or else. The sucker sent it and then realized that the scammer did not work for Con Edison, police stated.

Bar stole

A cretin stole a woman's purse when she left it unattended at a Montrose Avenue bar on March 23, according to a police report.

The 22-year-old victim reported she was at a bar between Graham Avenue and Humboldt Street at 4 am when she set her stuff down next to her for about 15 minutes. When she turned to leave, the handbag, which contained her credit card and driver's license, was gone, officers said.

Roaming free

A teen ripped the phone out of a woman's hand as she was waiting in the lobby of a Flushing Avenue public housing project on March 24, cops reported.

The victim said she was waiting in the lobby of the house between Bushwick Avenue and Humboldt Street at 6 pm when the young punk ran up to her and grabbed the phone from her hand. The lousy no-good laughed at her and ran off, officials said.

The victim told police that she had seen the robber on Facebook.

Bike-by thieving

A lowlife cyclist snatched an iPhone out of a woman's hand as she was walking down Olive Street on March 27, police said.

The 33-year-old victim said she was walking at Devoe Street at 8:45 pm when the bandit rode up behind her, grabbed the device, and kept riding.

The woman used an app to track the phone to Stagg Walk, but then the signal was lost, according to authorities.

— Danielle Furfaro

On a roll!

Gowanus seafood shop to open G’point outpost

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

The obvious move when your clam shack finds success along the banks of the Gowanus Canal — open an outpost a hop, skip, and a jump from Newtown Creek.

Littleneck, the New-England-style seafood eatery that needed an internet fundraiser to open in Gowanus in 2011, is doing so well slinging \$18 lobster rolls that it is planning a sandwich shop

in Greenpoint. The owners say they are going to orient the new place to a daytime crowd while maintaining the dinner atmosphere they have developed at their first location. “We are hoping that people will pop in early in the morning for a cup of coffee and a croissant and pop in on the way home for a plate of oysters or a lobster roll,” said co-owner Aaron Lefkove. “There are very few lunch



Littleneck owner Aaron Lefkove shows off his seafood shack’s signature fried full belly Ipswich clam roll with tartar sauce and shredded romaine lettuce.

options in the area, and we want to change that.” The shop, named simply “Littleneck Outpost,” will offer coffee from Manhattan distributor La Colombe and will also include a small retail section hawking products such as Littleneck’s tartar sauce and pickles, as well as specialty items such as bottarga and other kinds of cured fish. The storefront at the corner of Franklin and Milton streets was the perfect shell for the proprietors’ vision, Lefkove said. “We had an idea and once we saw an open space, we jumped on it,” he said. “We hope other people will think it is a great idea too.” The shop at 128 Franklin St. will open sometime this spring, he said.

LETTER

Chinese plan is the best for LICH

To the editor, At Tuesday evening’s Saint Francis College gathering regarding the future of Long Island College Hospital four bids presented included hospitals. Two of the four bids called for 100-bed hospitals in a new hospital; one estimating 9-10 years of build time and the other starting to build in 2-3 years. Another bid came from a beach in Rio and promised the stars. The result of those bids, if one is chosen: many years with a 100-bed hospital where LICH now stands, still proudly. And builders’ plans change: Saint Vincent’s Hospital in Manhattan was promised 100,000 square feet for medical use, but that never happened. Because a 100-bed hospital is not large enough to provide a full-service, acute-care



Dr. Jon Berall

hospital in the downtown of a major metropolitan area, the 460,000 people being served by LICH and seen in the LICH emergency room — which treats more than 60,000 people each year — will be badly served. And nearby hospitals will be overrun. LICH was a 250-bed, full-service, acute-care Hospital until 11 months ago, and into the distant past — and 90 percent occupied. The Chinese Community Accountable Care Organization’s bid calls for starting with a 150-bed hospital and increasing to 200 beds in the first year and 250 in the second. The plan is to use the present buildings and reestablish the hospital, then consider other uses for available space and nearby properties, focusing on medical use. The focus in that plan is on the hospital. The other bids are focused on the real estate.

LICH...

Continued from page 1 evaluator on the committee who does not represent the six community groups, according to an anti-closure advocate who would not divulge the identity of the mole. “SUNY should stop trying to manipulate the outcome and should let LICH be a hospital,” said Cobble Hill Association member Jeff Strabone. “Their hospital-killing zeal boggles the mind.” A state attorney vehemently denied the claims, saying that the evaluators were not instructed to deviate from the rules and that the state expected the committee members to award higher scores to plans that include a full-service hospital. “The bottom line is that the evaluators were free to evaluate in a manner that they individually deemed appropriate and without interference,” state lawyer Frank Carone wrote in a response to Walden. An additional stipulation to the latest settlement signed by Carone and Walden states that members of the committee should disregard any information conveyed to them, or information they read in the media, about the regulatory process for approval of a hospital operator. The stipulation has been approved by Brooklyn Supreme Court Judge Johnny Lee Baynes, who has overseen the lawsuit. The committee, which handed in its final scores on March 31, is charged with evaluating the nine plans based on a point system that weighs

medical services as two-thirds of the score and assesses the rest in terms of the amount of cash that the proposer is willing to put up. A group including Councilman Carlos Menchaca (D–Red Hook) and reps from the nurses union and community groups that sued the state to halt the hospital closure have less than half the say in scoring the medical category and none in scoring the financials. The state does not stand to gain huge amounts of cash from trying to kill redevelopment proposals that include full-service hospitals because of a \$250-million cap on how much it could bag for the prime real estate the hospital sits on, which experts value at as much as \$500 million. A plan by a group called Brooklyn Health Partners would pay the state \$250 million and keep the hospital a hospital, while a proposal from the Peebles Corporation, a developer, would pay the same amount, plus \$10 million to a non-profit dedicated to improving healthcare in the borough, but turn the hospital into luxury apartments. Developer Fortis Property Group also wants to dismantle the hospital and is offering up just \$240 million, the fourth-highest pledge, but has long been considered a favorite of the state, in part because a company founder and his uncle, who does not work for the company, donated \$17,500 to Gov. Cuomo, who controls the State University of New York. University trustees met on April 3, after press time.

MISSING...

Continued from page 1 eyes. Ott works for the Los Angeles fashion investment firm Dock Group and has also worked for J. Mendel. Kim said friends found

surveillance footage showing him walking onto the Williamsburg Bridge. Anyone with information on Ott’s whereabouts should call cops at (718) 963-5368.

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NEW YORK CITY'S TEACHER EXODUS

| District | Poverty Index | Class Size Grade 3 | Teacher Mid-Career Salary | Teacher Top Salary |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| NYC | 78% | 26 | \$78,885 | \$100,049 |
| East Ramapo | 78% | 21 | \$93,429 | \$125,173 |
| New Rochelle | 48% | 23 | \$88,040 | \$124,603 |
| Great Neck | 10% | 19 | \$100,455 | \$128,924 |
| Hempstead | 84% | 24 | \$88,601 | \$114,469 |
| Half Hollow Hills | 11% | 24 | \$87,344 | \$125,594 |

In addition to one of the highest percentages of needy children, New York City has the largest class sizes and the lowest teacher salaries in the region.

Former New York City Teachers

516 Orange/Rockland
1,442 Westchester
1,444 Nassau
730 Suffolk

New York City is in the midst of a teacher exodus. More than 32,000 teachers walked away from jobs in New York City classrooms in the last eleven years, with more than one in eight leaving for jobs in nearby suburban systems that have higher pay, lower class sizes and better teaching conditions.

The previous mayor claimed poverty while rolling up multi-billion-dollar surpluses. His Department of Education raised class sizes, focused instruction on test prep rather than real learning, and forced teachers to generate reams of unnecessary paperwork. Tens of thousands left, and more than 25 percent of all city teachers are now contemplating leaving within three years.

For me as an educator, the most troubling part of this teacher exodus is that the number of resignations among mid-career teachers (6-15 years of experience) nearly doubled between 2008 and 2013, even

in the teeth of the recession. These are teachers who have honed their craft, know how to reach struggling students, and are invaluable as mentors for their newer colleagues.

But under the circumstances it's hard to blame the thousands of teachers who left our classrooms for the suburbs – or the

teachers who say they are now planning on leaving. Or the thousands of highly qualified graduates who will choose one of these districts rather than New York City for their first teaching job unless conditions improve.

Obviously teachers have a personal stake in this. But so does every public school parent. If New York City is serious about having a first-class school system, it has got to find a way to slow the loss of teachers, particularly to the suburban areas where pay and working conditions are so much better.

The city's economy is steadily improving, and honest budgeting will show that new resources are available from the city and the state.

Critics keep saying that New York City cannot afford to treat its teachers and students fairly. But the real question is this — **can we afford not to?**

— Michael Mulgrew

Attrition of Mid-Career Teachers is Growing

2008 vs. 2013

In 2008, mid-career resignations were 15% of the total. In 2013 they were 43%.

Resignations of teachers with 6 to 15 years' experience.



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ZOO...

Continued from page 1

house she owns for the pay-to-play park and spent \$200,000 to install a spring-loaded floor and build the obstacles.

The all-ages playground opened in January 2013 and made good money in its early months, but none of the business arrangements were committed to paper and James' business partners refused to pay Barrett back for her investment, James said. James left the business and Barrett sued to evict Bklyn Beast, he said. The death knell came on Dec. 15, when the remaining owners threw a massive party that ended with cops slapping the facility with a vacate order, according to James.

Brooklyn Zoo, which borrows its name from the inimitable rap classic by the



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Giovanni Raitieri, left, and Brooklyn Zoo co-owner Geronimo Frias monkey around at the newly opened parkour palace.

Wu-Tang Clan's Ol' Dirty Bastard, is adding obstacles and has already installed a new rope wall. Instructors from parkour advocacy group USA Parkour will soon visit New York to certify Brooklyn

Zoo's instructors as safe and responsible, Barrett said.

"We will probably have three or four certified teachers," she said.

The studio also plans to offer classes in breakdanc-

ing and tumbling.

The pair are confident that the studio will regain most of its former clientele quickly.

"There are not any other places to do what we are doing here," said Barrett. "We have amazing talent and amazing instructors. I think people will come back."

Students are already starting to trickle in.

"This place is a mecca," said student Natasha Markwick. "It's like a second home."

Prices have gone up slightly at the play palace's latest incarnation, with classes costing \$20, \$2 more than before, and 10-class passes up \$30 to \$180.

Brooklyn Zoo parkour studio at [230 Bogart St. at Ten Eyck Street in Williamsburg, brooklynzooky.com, (347) 987-3228]. Classes are \$20; 10-class passes are \$180; open training sessions are \$15-8.

METHODIST...

Continued from page 1

"The benefits of using the adjacent garage space are so numerous and so obvious that we are hopeful that the [city] will require [New York Methodist Hospital] to re-examine this potential," said Urban Architectural Initiatives architect David Hirsch, who penned a letter with four other designers to the city singing the praises of the idea.

Among the supposed virtues of the activist version of the outpatient clinic, which would require a zoning variance, are that it would be closer to the height allowed under the neighborhood's current zoning, would fit in better with the surrounding buildings, and would help medical staffers move around the complex more easily, activists say.

Methodist has so far refused to entertain the idea. The hospital's knocks against the activist plan include the claim that building over the garage on Fifth Street near Seventh Avenue would require seismic retrofitting — modification to make the structure more resistant to earthquakes — and the process would require closing the garage for about 17 months, as a hospital rep wrote in a March 4 letter to the city. Such a building's floors would also be too small to accommodate the various clinical institutes and would keep doctors from consulting each other — the

same problem Methodist has with the taller, thinner version of the center that it can build without city approval, the letter said.

Not so, insist the persistent project foes, who have pulled out all the stops in railing against the plan, bringing in their own architects, lawyers, and traffic and environmental experts to refute the hospital's claims about why the complex, dubbed the Center for Community Health, has to be built the way it wants. Moving patients and staff from floor to floor for consultation

is not a standard or preferable hospital procedure, claimed Hirsch. The activists want the city's Board of Standards and Appeals, which has final say over the zoning variance, to demand more information.

"The Board and the community deserve to better understand why the garage site is being preserved while excessive variances are being sought for a larger development than the zoning allows," the letter states.

The only possible reason that the hospital would overlook the plan is if it was secretly planning to build even more above the garage in the future, the activists claim.

"It is clear to us that ei-

ther the architects have not properly considered the obviously better option to include the garage potential or they have been told by New York Methodist to reserve this space for future development," Hirsch said. "They have instead tried to defeat this potential by using fallacious arguments."

Methodist architects are studying the activist plan and will respond to it at the next Board of Standards and Appeals hearing on April 8, hospital spokeswoman Lyn Hill said.

The expansion would take the place of 16 townhouses, some of them more than a century old.

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- Jason B.

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(718) 260-2500 The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings April 4-10, 2014

Ra Ra Rasputin!

G'point dinner party honors Russia's greatest love machine

By Megan Riesz
The Brooklyn Paper

There is no disputin' the intrigue of Rasputin. An enamored fan of the mysterious Siberian holy man Grigori Rasputin is throwing a dinner party to celebrate the life and legacy of the mystic who has been accused of bringing down the last tsarist regime of Russia. Rasputin is a fascinating character who remains a magnet for misrepresentation and myth, according to the organizer of the shindig. "More people think that they know about him because he's such a popular touchstone, then you talk to people and you realize people don't have an idea who he was," said organizer Jamie Hook. The April 7 dinner at Le Gamin Cafe in Greenpoint comes on the 99th anniversary of Rasputin's attention-grabbing incident at Yar Restaurant in Moscow, where he allegedly pulled out his member in front of stunned diners. Some have said the flasher was only an impersonator of Rasputin out to discredit the healer, but either way, Hook and company will be dining on the same meal the man had that night — a bowl of the beetroot-based soup borscht. "When else do you get to eat a huge bowl of bloody vegetables?" Hook said. "Being a notorious countercultural type lad, Rasputin reveled in eating this in front of high-born Russians,



Mad Monk munchies: Jamie Hook is throwing a dinner in honor of the Russian mystic Rasputin.

DINING
"Ra Ra Rasputin: A Dinner and Celebration of the Life and Times of Russia's Greatest Love Machine" at Le Gamin Cafe [108 Franklin St. near Noble Street in Greenpoint, (718) 770-7918, www.legamin.com]. April 7 from 7-11 pm. \$30 including three-course dinner.

so that's the connection." Known for seducing women under the pretense that they would be closer to God if they fornicated and deeply repented, Rasputin was often invited to the court of Russian Tsar Nicholas II so that he could heal the hemophilic heir apparent, Alexei. His odd relationship with the Romanov family — some say he had too much political influence over the tsarina — is heavily disputed, as is his alleged magical prowess, according to Hook. "There was something strange about him, something that's beyond the pale," he said. "There are people who are strangely attuned to subtleties in life, and he was one of them." Hook recalled listening to Boney M.'s Euro-disco song "Rasputin" as a young kid growing up in Kenya. Since then, the Greenpoint dad has been enthralled by the wanderer's life, eventually deciding to put together the feast that will feature live Russian music, melodramatic vodka toasts, and a 15-minute presentation on the honoree. Onlookers will be bewitched, Hook insisted. "His life is so fascinating that it doesn't need any embellishments," he said.

GAMES

Magic spells

You shall not pass — if you cannot spell, that is. Greenpoint's Word bookstore is hosting a spelling bee where contestants must spell difficult science fiction and fantasy-themed terms or meet their maker — figuratively, of course. The April 5 contest promises to be an impressive battle of tongues due to the formidable languages that these fandoms boast, according to the bee's facilitator. "In terms of the words, sci-fi and fantasy are two of the most creative genres for new, interesting, and wonderfully challenging words," said Geoffrey Golia, the event's emcee. "A Game of Words: You Spell or You Die!" will be divided into epic fantasy and sci-fi rounds, boasting lexicons from famed books, TV shows, and films such as George R. R. Martin's "A Song of Ice and Fire," "Doctor Who," and "Star Wars." Golia, who also organizes the Williamsburg bar trivia night "A Trivia of Ice and Fire" based on Martin's fantasy series, will oversee 10 contestants in each preliminary round. Two finalists will then face off in hopes of attaining the crown — as well as some books donated by Golia himself. At last year's inaugural fandom-themed bee, contestants were asked to spell terms such as "morsmordre," the name for the spell used to conjure the skull-and-serpent Darth Mark sign in J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter," as well as "hoolooovoo," a term from Douglas Adams's "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" that refers to a super-intelligent shade of blue. Golia would not reveal any of this year's words, but promised fans will not be disappointed. "You'll see words that represent beloved and notorious characters, cool and dangerous weapons, magical creatures and places, alien substances, and fictional-but-fascinating concepts," he said. "A Game of Words: You Spell or You Die!" at Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com]. April 5 at 5 pm. Free. Email brooklyn@wordbookstores.com to sign up. — Megan Riesz

ART

Photo jam

This guy likes to follow tradition — with a camera! A multi-instrumentalist with a passion for photography will show off shots he took of musicians at traditional Celtic and Scots jam sessions around the city, in an exhibition at Red Hook's Jalopy Theatre. "I fell in love with these images, so every time I went out to play, I brought my 35 millimeter camera with me," said Matt Diaz, who plays guitar, flute, whistle, and bouzouki. The sessions have been happening in Brooklyn and Manhattan for at least a decade at venues including Iona in Williamsburg, Lily's in Union Square, and Dempsey's on the Bowery. Diaz has been a regular of the loosely-knit crew of musicians for at least 10 years. "I love the colorful characters," said fiddle player Suzanne Grossman, who is also a fixture in the local jam scene and is prominently featured in Diaz's photographs. "We're playing for a pub audience, but we are also playing for ourselves." Diaz started using the film camera on a whim one day after his digital camera broke, and realized that he needed to use both black and white and color film to capture the spirit of the shows. "The grain of the black and white perfectly matches the mood of these intimate, darkly-lit pubs where we play this music," said Diaz. "It perfectly captures what is in my mind's eye." The exhibition — titled "Outside Llewlyn Davis" in reference to the New York folk scene shown in the recent Coen Brothers movie "Inside Llewyn Davis" — is the first photography show for Diaz, 43. Appropriately, the opening night of the show on April 10 will also feature traditional music, with visiting performers from Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island taking the stage to play tunes from the Scottish highlands and the Canadian maritimes. "Outside Llewlyn Davis" opening at the Jalopy Theatre [315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Redhook, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz]. April 10 at 8 pm. \$15. Exhibition runs through April 24. — Danielle Furfaro



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Flop-house cinema

W'burg film fest celebrates bad movies

By Sarah Iannone
for The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn has festivals for cat films, motorbike films, and science fiction films. And now it has a festival for bad films. The second annual "Bad Film Fest" will take place at Williamsburg performance space Cloud City on April 11 and 12. The festival, organized by a pair of New York City writers and performers, celebrates pieces of cinema that are "so bad they're good." "We felt it would be a fun way to program a very diverse festival and it would sort of set the bar low to be able to say yes to a wide variety of films," said Shawn Wickens, who is organizing on the event with longtime collaborator Starr Kendall. The duo have selected 62 films

MOVIES


"Bad Film Festival" at Cloud City (85 N. First St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, www.badtheaterfest.com). April 11 and 12 at 7 and 9 pm. \$7 per session.

from both local and international filmmakers for this year's fest — some coming from here in Brooklyn, others as far away as Estonia. Selections include a commercial parody shot on VHS in 1987 in Canarsie, and a short filmed in the swamps of Florida with a budget of four six-packs and a bag of Doritos. Most of the films have an average running time of only 3-4 minutes, so even if some turn out to be so bad they're just plain bad, it won't be a problem, said Wickens.

"Even if you come and see something you don't like, it will be over soon," he said. Just what makes a film "bad" is open to interpretation, and the pair — who also put on an annual "Bad Theater Festival" — hopes the event prompts filmmakers and audiences to think about the question "what does bad mean to you?" "We try to fit as many things as we can under the umbrella of the word 'bad,'" said Kendall. But the duo said they definitely place a premium on films that push the boundaries of good taste. "Stuff that sometimes scares us is what we look for," said Kendall. "If there's something that makes us a little nervous about screening, it's likely that we'll eventually put it in the line-up to rattle our chains as well as the audience's."



Movie tragic: For "Bad Film Fest" creators Shawn Wickens, left, and Starr Kendall, a thumbs down is really a thumbs up.



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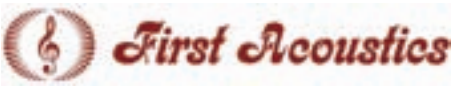


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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY

April 4



Cello there

Israeli-born, New York City-based cello prodigy Yoed Nir has played with the likes of Regina Spektor, Rufus Wainwright, and Of Montreal — and now he is playing on a boat! Nir performs at floating concert hall Bargemusic, with an eclectic set-list that includes Jimi Hendrix, Rachmaninov, and original compositions for the electric cello.

7 pm at Bargemusic, Fulton Ferry Landing [near the corner of Furman Street and Old Fulton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 624-4924, www.bargemusic.org]. \$25.

SATURDAY

April 5

Who you gonna call?

Grab your proton pack and your ecto goggles and head down to Videology to celebrate the greatest sci-fi comedy film of all time. In addition to a screening of the original 1984 "Ghostbusters" movie, there will be trivia, a quote-off, a marshmallow roast, and a special ectoplasm cocktail.

8:30 pm at Videology [308 Bedford Ave. at S. First Street in Williamsburg, (718) 782-3468, www.videology.info]. \$10.



SUNDAY

April 6



Shhhh!

Do you sometimes wish this city would just shut up? Writer and artist Siobhan Wall has written a whole guide to quiet places in New York City where you can escape the racket. She will be signing copies of "Quiet New York" at Word bookstore in Greenpoint, followed by a walking tour of peaceful places in the neighborhood.

4 pm at Word [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com]. Free.

WEDNESDAY

April 9

Slope style

What does Park Slope taste like? Find out at the annual "A Taste of Fifth" festival, where a smorgasbord of Fifth Avenue restaurants and bars will offer up samples of their signature food and booze. Purveyors include Grand Central Oyster Bar, Luke's Lobster, the Chocolate Room, ACME Wine and Spirits, Gorilla Coffee, and many more.

6:30 pm at Grand Prospect Hall [263 Prospect Ave. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 551-5545, www.parkslope-fifthavenuebid.com/tasteof5th2014]. \$45–\$50.



THURSDAY

April 10



Thought Hubble

Scope this out — a group of experts on the Hubble Space Telescope will gather at the Way Station bar for a beer-fueled discussion and debate about the \$6 billion piece of technology, as part of the roving "Astronomy on Tap" science series. There will also be games, prizes, and glow-sticks

7 pm at the Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between Prospect Place and St. Marks Avenue in Prospect Heights, (347) 627-4949, www.waystationbk.blogspot.com]. Free.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, APRIL 4

ART, "THE WAY YOU LOOK IS THE WAY I FEEL": New sculptural paintings by Reed Anderson. **Free.** 11 am–6 pm. Pierogi Gallery [177 N. Ninth St. between Bedford and Driggs avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 599-2144, www.pierogi2000.com].

ART, "THOUGHT BUBBLES": New work from four visual artists working with graphic and comic conventions and devices. **Free.** 1–5 pm. Rhombus Space [183 Lorraine St., #33 between Court and Clinton streets in Red Hook, www.rhombusspace.com].

TALK, "THE GLOBAL OBAMA: Leadership in the 21st Century": Four experts wonder, "What do people in the United States and around the world really think of President Barack Obama?" **Free.** 2 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200, www.sfc.edu].

THEATER, "PHIL. 176/OBIT ": Episodic performance installation based on Yale's 176/Obit philosophy course and modern obituaries. 8 pm. Bushwick Starr [207 Starr St. between Irving and Wyckoff streets in Bushwick, (917) 623-9669, www.thebushwickstarr.org].

THEATER, "RED VELVET": In London in 1833, a black American breaks precedent and plays Othello when another actor cannot perform. \$45–55. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [29 Jay St. between John and Plymouth streets in Dumbo, (718) 254-8779, www.stannswarehouse.org].

THEATER, "YENTL": A play by Leah Napolin and Isaac Bashevis Singer, directed by Susan Montez. \$25 (\$23 seniors, children under 18). 8 pm. Heights Players [26 Willow Pl. between Joralemon and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 237-2752, www.heightsplayers.org].

DANCE, "VECTORS, MARYS, AND SNOW": Brooklyn Ballet presents eclectic dancing, live music and collaborations as well as a sneak peek from the Brooklyn Nutcracker. \$10–\$25. 8 pm. The Actors Fund Arts Center [160 Schermerhorn St. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 246-0146, brooklynballet.org].

MUSIC, MONUMENTS WITH ELECTRIC DISCHARGE MACHINE AND OLD INDIAN: \$10. 7 pm. Grand Victory [245 Grand St. between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6610, www.thegrandvictory.com].

MUSIC, THE COWMEN, KARMA DARWIN, THE QUALIA, THE MYSTERYS, MARCELA ALCALA: \$8. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.thetrashbar.com].

MUSIC, JON LANGFORD & THE SKULL ORCHARD WITH MEGHAN WRIGHT, TATTERS AND RAGS: \$14. 8:30 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouseny.com].

MUSIC, FRO: **Free.** 9 pm. Brooklyn



Associated Press/Paul A. Hearn/Invision

She's coming in like a wrecking ball: Believe it or not, this is one of the more print-appropriate photos we could find of Miley Cyrus' "Bangerz" tour, which comes to the Barclays Center April 5.

Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org].

SAT, APRIL 5

PROSPECT PARK OPENING DAY: Parade, spring cleaning of the park, family programming, games, activities and exhibits. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400, www.prospectpark.org/audubon].

TALK, DUMBO WALKING TOUR: Suzanne Spellman, aka Brownstoner blogger "Montrose Morris," will guide participants through Dumbo's fascinating history. \$25 (\$15 members). 11 am. TBA to ticket holders, (718) 222-4111, brooklyn-history.org.

THEATER, "THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES": \$20–\$30 (sliding scale). 2 pm. Knitting Factory [361 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6696, ny.knittingfactory.com].

ART, TARGET FIRST SATURDAY: Live music, performance, talks, and film exploring artists' impact on the civil rights movement. 5–11 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000, www.brooklynmuseum.org].

MUSIC, MILEY CYRUS: Bangerz Tour, with Icona Pop and Sky Ferreira: \$64.50–\$94.50. 7:30 pm. Barclays Center [620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights, (917) 618-6100, www.barclayscenter.com].

MUSIC, STEEL REIGN, ELDER, JO-

TUNHEIM, THINNING THE HERD, LETHAL AFFECTION, INNOMINATI: \$10. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.thetrashbar.com].

MUSIC, GREAT LAKES, THE INNER BANKS, TALSNES: \$8. 9 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com].

MUSIC, GLAMDAMMIT! MOTOR-HEAD TRIBUTE WITH THE FLIES, BRIANA LAYON & THE BOYS, MURDER ONE, TWIG THE WONDERKID, SAM HARRIS: **Free.** 11 pm. Grand Victory [245 Grand St. between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6610, www.thegrandvictory.com].

READING, "THE HOMESICK TEXAN'S FAMILY TABLE": Author Lisa Fain and recipes prepared by Melissa Vaughan. **Free.** 4 pm. powerhouse [8th [1111 Eighth Ave. between 11th and 12th streets in Park Slope, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhousearena.com].

SUN, APRIL 6

FIX YOUR BIKE WORKSHOP: Fix your own bike with advice and some assistance from experienced bike mechanics. Tools provided. **Free.** 6–8 pm. (99 South 6th St. near Bedford [Under Williamsburg bridge] in Williamsburg).

FILM, FILM CLUB WITH MOVIE MIKE: New series presenting cinema classics, oddities and forgotten gems. **Free.** 2 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131, www.freddysbar.com].

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MUSIC, REGINA OPERA: Gala concert celebrating Regina Opera's 44th Anniversary. \$12 (\$5 under 18; free under 12). 3 pm. Our Lady of Perpetual Help School [5902 Sixth Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 439-8067, www.olphschoolbrooklyn.org].

MUSIC, EVENS GO EAST, PRINZE GEORGE, KELLY FRAGALE: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.thetrashbar.com].

FOOD TRUCK RALLY: Sample treats from New York's best food trucks. **Free.** 11 am–5 pm. Grand Army Plaza [Union Street between Flatbush Avenue and Prospect Park West in Park Slope].

FILM, "IT": Clara Bow plays "the 'it' girl" in this 1927 silent film. **Free.** 1 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org].

TALK, "CARNIVOROUS NIGHTS TAXIDERMIST CONTEST": Taxidermy, biological specimens, articulated skeletons and skulls, and jarred specimens are all eligible to enter. \$12. 7:30 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouseny.com].

MON, APRIL 7

"EAT & SHOP YOUR HEART OUT": Weekly shopping and dining promotions; coupon flyers available at participating businesses. **Free.** (Cortelyou Road between Coney Island Avenue and East 17th Street in Flatbush, www.fcdonline.org).

MUSIC, ROSS HAMMOND AND DARYL SHAWN: Folk standards and improvisation. \$5 (suggested). 7 pm. The Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (718) 627-4949, www.waystationbk.com].

TALK, THE MOTH STORYSLAM: Storytelling competition: stage is open to anyone with a story to tell on the evening's theme. \$8. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhouseny.com].

MUSIC, SARA SCHAEFER AND FRIENDS: \$7. 8:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com].

COMEDY, STAND UP COMEDY: **Free.** 9 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131, www.freddysbar.com].

See 9 DAYS on page 10



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Listed:
SRDS

Smorgasburg fires up

Market returns with two Indian-inspired sauces

By Matthew Perلمان
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn’s outdoor markets are gearing up for an Indian summer. Brooklyn Flea and Smorgasburg will open up their warm-weather incarnations for a seventh time on April 5. And a pair of new vendors will be adding a spicy taste of the Subcontinent to the mix, with two different takes on fiery Indian condiments.

At Brooklyn Bridge Park Smorgasburg, Downtown resident Ashwin Alexander will be slinging his own original creation, called Tayzz Hot Boss Desi Sauce.

The sauce came to be after Alexander discovered that a traditional Goan chili paste made for a great addition to a slice of pizza. This got him wondering — why is there no Indian hot sauce? He decided to invent one himself, and last December, the first bottles of Tayzz rolled off the production line.

Alexander’s sauce combines elements of Indian cooking with more conventional hot sauce ingredients. It is tomato-based, with vin-



Feeling hot, hot, hot: Chitra Agrawal creates her Brooklyn Delhi aachar in a church kitchen in Bedford-Stuyvesant.

egar, sugar, and cayenne pepper, but also incorporates ginger, cumin, coriander, and other spices typically found in Indian cuisine.

“I wanted it to be like an Indian Sriracha,” he said. “With a complex flavor.”

Alexander experimented selling small runs of Tayzz last summer, and is hoping his Smorgasburg outpost will

open the product up to a bigger audience.

“We want Smorgasburg to be our coming out party for Brooklyn,” he said.

Over at the Williamsburg Smorgasburg in East River State Park, a Crown Heights couple will be offering a more traditional Indian condiment — a sweet and spicy Indian relish called aachar. Aachar

means pickled vegetable in Hindi, and cooks usually make it with sour produce such as mango.

Chitra Agrawal teaches cooking classes that focus on traditional Indian techniques using locally available ingredients — an ethos she brings to her product line, Brooklyn Delhi. Agrawal makes a version of her fiery relish with to-

matoes and another with garlic. And when gooseberries come into season, she plans to make it with those too.

The aachar gets its kick from Indian chili peppers, and Angrawal suggests using it sparingly — but on almost anything.

Agrawal and her fiancé Ben Garthus started bottling the piquant condiment in December.

The couple said they are excited about coming to Smorgasburg, because it will give them a chance to guide people through their first bite of the mouth-searing sauce.

“It’s important that we’re in front of people and educating about it,” Angrawal said. “People might be a little nervous until they try it.”

Brooklyn Delhi at Williamsburg Smorgasburg (N. Seventh Street at Kent Avenue in Williamsburg, www.smorgasburg.com). Saturdays from 11 am–6 pm, starting April 5.

Tayzz at Brooklyn Bridge Park Smorgasburg (Joralemon Street at Furman Street in Dumbo). Sundays from 11 am–6 pm, starting April 6.



Blowin’ in the woodwind: Crown Heights duo Flutronix is making the flute hip again.

Flute the messenger

Crown Heights duo Flutronix brings modern sound to classical instrument

By Robert Ham
for The Brooklyn Paper

How do you take one of the world’s oldest instruments and make it cool?

That is the challenge two flutists from Crown Heights have taken on with Flutronix—a band that mixes the school-band staple with contemporary genres such as R&B and electronic music.

“We have this mutual desire to create a new and unique voice for the flute,” said Nathalie Joachim, who created the group with fellow flute player Allison Loggins-Hall. “We want to marry influences from our classical training with hip-hop, jazz, and pop music to bring to-

gether a new sound.”

Both women have been playing the flute since they were kids and were reared on a diet of classical standards, but Flutronix’s music is a far cry from Bach’s “Badinerie.”

The group’s latest album “2.0” has the sleek pulse of modern R&B, thanks to the pair’s soulful vocals, and beats provided by hip-hop drummer Joe Blaxx, while the melodic drive comes courtesy of their tart woodwind work.

The duo’s advocacy of the flute goes beyond Flutronix—Joachim and Loggins-Hall also host educational workshops and outreach programs, teaching students about the

history of the instrument and showing support for their fellow players.

“We want all students, from kindergarten to the university to know that the flute is possible as a career,” said Loggins-Hall. “If you’re willing to open your point of view to what kind of music you are playing, the possibilities are endless.”

That is certainly the case for Flutronix. Already this year, the group has participated in a residency at the University of Michigan and a headlining date at the Virginia Arts Festival. And the pair will soon be heading over to Japan for their first international concert appearances.

See **FLUTE** on page 10

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| Insalata di Pasqua Mix greens, beets, orange, goat cheese, with fig balsamic dressing | Foglie di Olivo Anchovies De Vellis Olive leaf shaped pasta with anchovies, rosemary, thyme, breadcrumbs, pernod, black olives & a touch of cream |
| Traditional Hot Antipasto Shrimp, baked clams, stuffed mushrooms, mozzarella in carozza, & eggplant rollatini | Ravioli Di Bufalina Housemade ravioli stuffed with imported bufala mozzarella, topped with light marinara sauce |
| SECONDI (Choice of one) | |
| Agnello Pasqualina Traditional Baby lamb, seasoned with rosemary & herbs over scallion potatoes | Petto di Pollo Principessa Chicken breast baked with asparagus, mozzarella, & tomato in a Grand Marnier sauce |
| Salmon Allo Zafferano Rolled salmon with heart of palm, slowly braised in a saffron sauce | Pollo con Portobello Grilled chicken with sautéed Portobello, zucchini, eggplant, & cherry tomatoes |
| Filetto di Sogliola Filet of sole seasoned with breadcrumbs & white wine lemon sauce | Bistecca alla Griglia Grilled sirloin steak....Additional \$7.95 |
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| Merenga al Limone Lemon Meringue Tart | Traditional Italian Cheesecake Homemade ricotta cheesecake |
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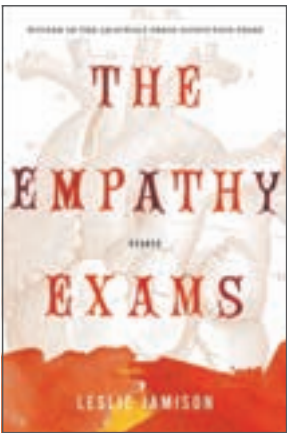
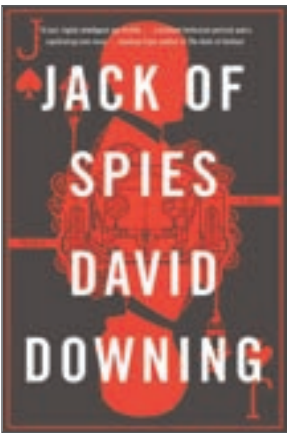
Weekend reads

Booksellers give their recommendations

Word’s pick
“**Boy, Snow, Bird**” by **Helen Oyeyemi**: Helen Oyeyemi can do no wrong. Her last book, “Mr. Fox,” was a twisty, unsettling riff on “Bluebeard.” This one is “Snow White”—sort of. It is really so much more than that. “Boy, Snow, Bird” reinvents the wicked stepmother, finds the anger in the perfect daughter, and explores a thorny tangle of identity, love, race, and perception. Oyeyemi writes like no one else, but she is absolutely an heir to the brilliant Angela Carter. Bravo.
— Molly Templeton, Word

[126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com].
BookMark’s pick
“**Jack of Spies**” by **David Downing**: David Downing’s new novel is a thought-provoking and moving historical epic set in 1913, about a British man who is a talented linguist and who gradually becomes a spy over the course of the book. The novel takes place the year before World War I breaks out, an absolutely fascinating moment in history when women were fighting for the right to vote and when

oppressed peoples all over the world were rebelling from colonial power structures. Somehow, Downing is able to capture all these complexities in the details of the story without slowing down the pace of this gripping thriller. Highly recommended for readers of spy novels like John Le Carre as well as fans of historical thrillers such as “The Meaning of Night” and “The Alienist.”
— Bina Valenzano, co-owner, The BookMark Shoppe [8415 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-5115, www.bookmarkshoppe.com].



Greenlight’s pick
“**The Empathy Exams**” by **Leslie Jamison**: In a word, stunning. In several more — Leslie Jamison’s debut essay collection is one of the most thoughtful,

thought-provoking, and mesmerizing contemporary essay collections out there today. Jamison’s final essay should be required reading for every English-speaking woman alive. Jamison brilliantly asks questions I never knew I wanted to ask and does so in a way that

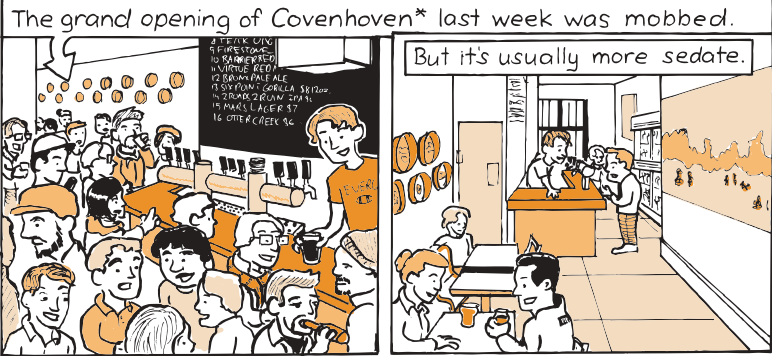
never presumes a particular answer. The bar is set for future essayists.
— Emily Russo, Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, www.greenlightbookstore.com].

FLUTE...

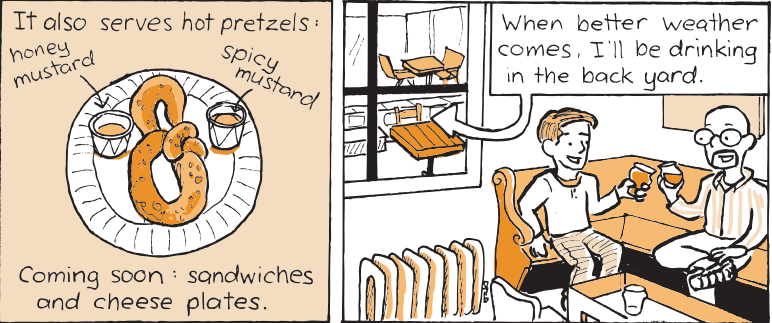
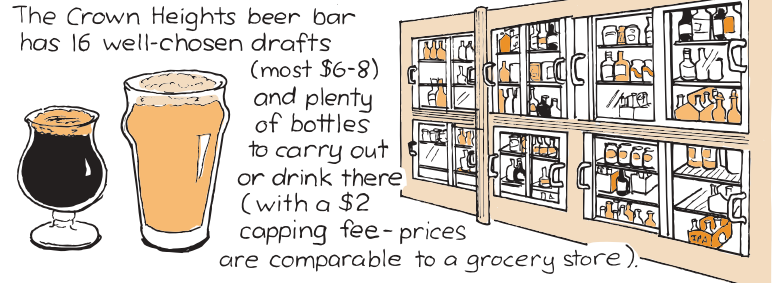
Continued from page 9
When they return, Joachim and Loggins-Hall will be continuing their ongoing series of concerts “Flutronic and Friends,” which brings musicians of all stripes and styles together for one-off gigs around the borough.
“We live in the epicenter of tons of really wonderful music making that’s happening,” Joachim said. “To be able to tie together all the exciting culture that is around us here in Brooklyn, that means a lot to us as Flutronic.”
Flutronic plays Pete’s Candy Store [709 Lorimer St. between Richardson and Frost streets in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3770, www.petescandystore.com]. April 10 at 9 pm. \$10.

BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roundy



The grand opening of Covenhoven* last week was mobbed.



Covenhoven [730 Classon Ave. between Park Place and Prospect Place in Crown Heights, (917) 449-6793, www.covenhovennyc.com]. Open daily, 4 pm–11 pm.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

TUES, APRIL 8

ART, CONRAD LEVENSON: Sculpture made from artifacts and reclaimed materials. **Free**. 11 am–5 pm. Sculptors Guild Gallery [111 Front St. between Washington and Adams streets in Dumbo, (718) 422-9555, www.sculptorsguild.org].
READING, MATT TAIBBI: Author of “The Divide,” in conversation with illustrator Molly Crabapple. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhouse-arena.com].
FILM, “GIRL RISING”: Get to know nine unforgettable girls living in the developing world. \$14. 7:30 pm. Court Street Stadium [12106 Court St. at Scherhorn Street in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 246-8170].
COMEDY, “CHEAP DATE COMEDY SHOW”: With Erik Bergstrom, Christian Polanco, Jessica Watkins. \$5. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallnyc.com].
COMEDY, “THE FANCY SHOW”: Producers Michael Joyce, Langston Kerman, Lane Pieschel, Simmons McDavid and Jenny Zigrino share the stage with local talent. **Free**. 8 pm. Bar Reis [375 Fifth Ave. between 5th and 6th streets in Park Slope, (718) 974-2412].
COMEDY, SIMON AMSTELL: \$15. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.thebellhousesy.com].
MUSIC, DANNY BROWN CONCERT: Rapper Danny Brown performs at Music Hall of Williamsburg. \$20. 9 pm. Music Hall of Williamsburg [66 N. Sixth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5400, www.musichallof-williamsburg.com].

WED, APRIL 9

TALK, “HIDDEN GEMS OF GREENWOOD”: See Green-Wood Cemetery’s glacial ponds, hear the tragic story of Charlotte Canda, and



The Brooklyn bonfire: See the original “it girl,” Prospect Heights-raised Clara Bow, in the silent film “It” at the Central Library on April 6.

visit the graves of Louis Moreau Gottschalk, “Bill the Butcher,” Lola Montez, and other noteworthy Brooklynites. \$15 (\$10 members). 1 pm. Green-Wood Cemetery [Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Green-wood Heights, (718) 768-7300], www.green-wood.com.

READING, CHRIS HONDROS: Author of “Testament.” **Free**. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhouse-arena.com].

READING, BEN MONTGOMERY: Author of “Grandma Gatewood’s Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail.” **Free**. 7 pm. Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

COMEDY, IMPROV AND SKETCH COMEDY: With Matt Catanzano, Richie Moriarty. \$5. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallnyc.com.

MUSIC, LENA BLOCH: \$10. 8:30 pm. Seeds Brooklyn [617 Vanderbilt Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Prospect Heights], seedsbrooklyn.org.

THURS, APRIL 10

TALK, 33RD ANNUAL LITERARY ARTS FESTIVAL: Poet Cornelius Eady will be this year’s guest speaker. **Free**. 5:30 pm. CUNY/City Tech Midway Auditorium [240 Jay St. at Bridge Plaza Court in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 260-4975].

READING, MAGGIE SHIPSTEAD: Author of “Astonish Me,” in conversation with Adelle Waldman. **Free**. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhouse-arena.com].

READING, “STEAMBOAT — A LITERARY HUMOR SERIES”: Bob Powers hosts funny people, including Adam Wilson and Hillary Rea. **Free**. 7:30 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200], greenlightbookstore.com.

ART, “PLATFORM — CREATIVE MUSINGS ON MASS TRANSIT”: Crowd-sourced art and performance inside the museum’s decommissioned subway station. \$10. 6:30 pm. New York Transit Museum [Boerum Place at Scherhorn Street in Downtown, (718) 694-1600], www.mta.info/mta-museum.

FRI, APRIL 11

ART, “SUBMERGED MOTHERLANDS”: Swoon creates a site-specific installation in the museum’s rotunda gallery. \$12 (suggested). 11 am–6 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000, www.brooklynmuseum.org].

“F*CK WINTER” VINTAGE POP-UP: Shed the winter blues with new/old spring and summer vintage duos. **Free**. 10 am–7 pm. Film Biz Recycling [540 President St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus], www.cncpopupshop.com.

ART, “THE STORY OF ELFRANKO WESSELS”: Multi-channel video installation by Erik Moskowitz and Amanda Trager. **Free**. 1–6 pm. Studio 10 [56 Bogart St. at Harrison

Place in Bushwick, (718) 852-4396], www.studio10bogart.com.

THEATER, “WONDERSHOW”: Variety show with burlesque and magic. \$15–\$20. 8 pm. Galapagos Art Space [16 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 222-8500], www.galapagosartspace.com.

MUSIC, BUNKER: Minilogue/Eric Cloutier, Danny Wang, Mike Servito, Wrecked in The Panther Room: \$10–\$20. 10 pm. Output [74 Wythe Ave. at North 12th Street in Williamsburg, (917) 333-1000], outputclub.com.

SAT, APRIL 12

“THE GREAT EGG HUNT”: Adults hunt for eggs bearing prizes such as free drinks, shots, and snacks on this pub crawl. 3–5 pm. (Grand Street between Union and Graham avenues in Williamsburg), www.thegreategghunt.com.

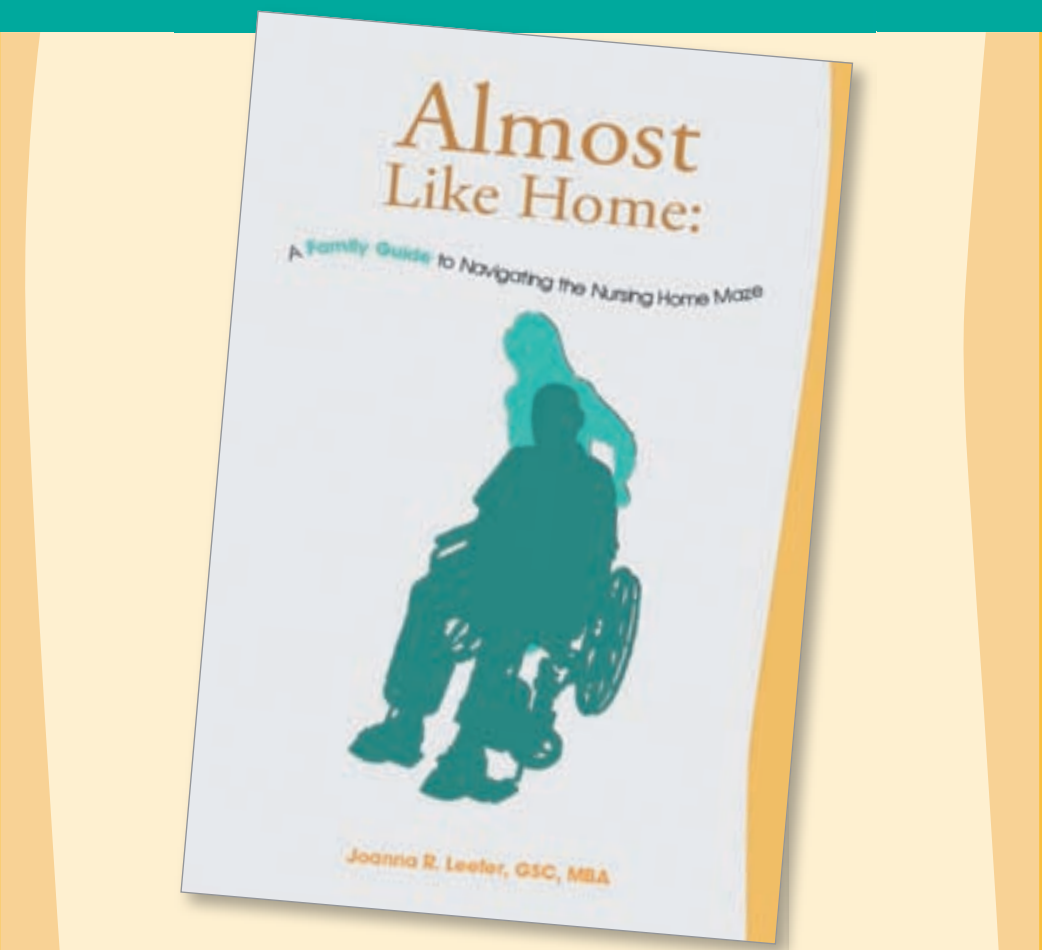
MUSIC, “SONGWRITER DEATHMATCH”: An intimate, non-violent evening of singer-songwriters in short sets, 21+. **Free**. 7 pm. Freddy’s Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Green-wood Heights, (718) 768-0131], www.freddysbar.com.

THEATER, “THE TOWER”: A psychodelic look at the Donner Party, snowbound pioneers who resorted to cannibalism to survive the winter of 1846-47. \$15. 8 pm. Standard ToyKraft [722 Metropolitan Ave., near Graham Avenue in Williamsburg), standardtoykraft.org].

CRAFT FAIR: Stationery, textiles, jewelry, etc., from Brooklyn artists. **Free**. 11 am–6 pm. PS9 School [80 Underhill Ave. between St. Mark’s Avenue and Bergen Street in Prospect Heights], www.prospectheightscraftfair.com.

MUSIC, ISLE OF RHODES, THE SPANISH CHANDEL, THE COURTESY TIER, ANACORTES: \$8–\$10. 8 pm. Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740], www.therockshopnyc.com.

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Relief disaster

'Show us the money!' say storm victims

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

Build it back already!

The city's "Build It Back" superstorm Sandy recovery program has many Brooklynites living in shells of the cherished homes they've had for 30 years or more, residents complained at a Council hearing on the program on Monday.

"These people have nowhere to go" said David Wynn, president of the Seagate Association, whose homeowners on the western end of Coney Island were particularly hard hit. "They're living in hovels."

Nearly all of the storm victims who testified complained about the program's snail-like pace — just three

households in the city shared \$100,000 in stipends for single-family home repairs since June of 2013 — and residents focused their ire on newly minted Office of Housing and Recovery Operations director Amy Peterson, who admitted that the program has been seriously flawed.

Build It Back launched without a customer service team, she said, and it didn't even have enough staff to properly serve customers until late October, 2013.

Since then, its workforce has grown to 70 employees and 200 contracted workers, and Mayor DeBlasio announced on March 29 that he will assign an additional 35 workers to the program.

But that comes too late

for residents who say they've squandered precious dollars on repairs that weren't compliant with the new program.

"All the money I got from the insurance company is wasted," said Rocco Brescia, who learned he had to elevate his home in Coney Island after he sunk thousands of dollars into first-floor repairs.

Peterson, who promised that checks for residents totaling \$800,000 were already disbursed or in the mail, said that there is a method to all the bureaucratic madness.

The program was designed to not repeat the sins of past disaster relief programs, which were rife with contractor fraud and shoddy



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Coney Islanders Rocco Brescia, Pamela Harris, and David Wynn attended a city hearing on the Build It Back program, which they say is too slow and fraught with clerical errors.

construction.

"The intent was for clients of the program to feel assured that construction would be done correctly, to the resilient building standards, and that they would bear no risk that funds would be reclaimed or extorted," she said.

To that end, she said, the process includes multi-

ple steps, including having those affected meet with multiple contractors and specialists. But handing applicants off through different technocrats breaks down accountability, she said.

Homeowners said this aspect was particularly frustrating, because it was clear that important information was

WINDOW...

Continued from page 1

leave, police reported.

One girl, a Queens high school student, told police that she was waiting for her food order and that she did not want to go, according to witnesses.

Her buddy, a scholar at Boys and Girls High School in Bedford-Stuyvesant, started to leave, but officers stopped her and began questioning her, said Ta Kim McCollum, who was ordering with the crew.

The officers yelled, "Get out," according to witnesses, four times, according to authorities.

Two cops then threw the Brooklyn kid to the ground and started slamming her face

on the floor, bloodying it, bystanders stated.

The Queens girl, enraged, tried to pull the male officers off of her chum and three other officers tackled her, then sat on her, according to a witness and intimate of the youngster.

"[The Queens teen] is my ex so I wanted to attack the cop but I didn't," the witness said. "I just stood there and cried."

Two cops tried to lead the Queens girl out the door, witnesses said. She stopped near the front of the restaurant and they tried to shove her forward, but instead one smashed her into the picture window, shattering it, and tumbled into

the falling glass after her, the witness and cops said.

Cops then led the girl, bloodied and dusted with broken glass, to a waiting police van.

"Where'd my best friend go?" the cuffed teen yelled, blood streaming down her face.

Officers followed with the best friend in tow, also cuffed.

The youths who remained were upset that the bloodied girl was held in the back of the van for 20 minutes while she screamed for medical attention.

"You're f----- late," McCollum yelled when an ambulance arrived after cops had driven her away.

The schoolgirl who crashed through the glass suffered

gashes on her face and lower back and was treated at Kings County Hospital before cops released her, police stated.

Three officers were also injured in the melee, including one who was cut across his forehead and left eyelid and another who needed five stitches on his hand, according to cops.

Cops charged both girls with trespassing, criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest and released them into their parents' custody.

In an interview with the NYPD's Internal Affairs Bureau, the injured girl admitted to refusing the cops' initial orders and resisting arrest, a law enforcement source said.

This year, Downtown cops have been cracking down on

teens who congregate after school, forcing them to disperse, said a barber at nearby Lawrence Barber Shop who stepped out for a cigarette and saw the whole incident.

"Cops are pushing them," said Cesar Sanchez.

About 100 teens mobbed Jay Street following the bloody arrest, according to witnesses, and at least two people were hauled off by police in the back of a squad car.

"It was a mini-riot," said Myra Eanes, an NYPD employee who said she saw the tail end of the chaos on Jay Street.

Eanes said that loitering kids often fight and cause problems Downtown and blamed nearby George Westinghouse High School.

— with Matthew Perlman

COURT...

Continued from page 1

of landlords is clear if you consider that 14 of 15 courtrooms are dedicated to eviction proceedings. Last year, the Brooklyn housing courts processed 70,349 cases, according to data from the civil court clerk's office.

The city has leased the 18-story office building on Livingston Street, between Smith Street and Red Hook Lane, since 1983. In addition to the housing court, the building also contains the civil and small-claims courts for Kings County. Pols and gadflies say there is not enough room under the roof for justice to be served.

"It's just not an appropriate building," said Jackie del Valle, an organizer with the social justice group Fifth Avenue Committee. "The building is too small."

Overcrowding prevents tenants from waiting for their cases to be called in the actual courtrooms. Instead, they are forced to stand in the hall, near enough to the door to hear a court officer call their name when the case comes up. If someone misses being called, he or she could lose the case.

"It's a nightmare," said Junie Desire, a Park Slope resident who has been battling a supposedly bogus eviction for more than a year. "You have to stay right there. You can't even leave, even to get something to eat."

The lack of space also means that lawyers approach tenants in the hall and try to get them to sign papers and make agreements that would sink their chances at a fair hearing, rabble-rousers said.

"Legal proceedings are happening in the hallways instead of the courtrooms," said del Valle.

Jenny Laurie works in the hall as assistant director of Housing Court Answers, an organization that provides people with free legal help in housing court cases. Her group keeps an information table for waiting litigants and says lawyers practicing in these conditions is bad news.

"There's no privacy. No time to think, or to look over your papers," Laurie said. "It's a madhouse."

Activists' other gripe is that the city rents the structure from David Bistricher, who bought it back in 2002. Bistricher owns a ton of real estate around Brooklyn and in Manhattan and made then-Public-Advocate Bill DeBlasio's blacklist in 2010 because of the 6,475 building violations at Flatbush Gardens, a sprawling 59-building housing complex in East Flatbush. Back then, DeBlasio penned letters to Mayor Bloomberg and the Department of Citywide Administrative Service, the agency in charge of holding leases for city-used property, urging them to not renew the lease for housing court unless Bistricher cleaned up his act.

"I urge you to consider what steps the City, as a commercial tenant of a considerable size, might take to improve conditions for residential tenants of Flatbush Gardens. Steps might include anything from rendering fu-

ture lease renewals contingent upon significant demonstrated efforts to improve conditions to refusing to renew leases," he wrote.

In 2013 the city paid Bistricher's company, Berkshire Equities, \$10.5 million for the Livingston Street space as well as other properties,

according to the comptroller's office. And his Flatbush buildings still have 1,273 open violations, according to data from the city's housing department that was updated March 1. The situation makes Brooklyn tenants feel even worse about their legal problems, Biggs said.

"It's just an added reason why you can't feel like you go down there and get a fair shot," she said.

Bistricher and his son donated a total of \$7,450 to DeBlasio's 2013 mayoral campaign and the newly elected Hizzoner has not criticized the fat cat since.

A mayoral spokeswoman refused to comment on the city's rental arrangement with her boss' former target.

With the current lease coming due in the next couple of months, the Department of Citywide Admin-

istrative services says it is looking at new places to put the courts while also haggling with Bistricher.

"We are looking for alternative locations, while negotiating details of a lease renewal that will ensure needed upgrades to the Kings County Civil Court space at 141 Livingston Street in Brooklyn," said Jerome White, a spokesman for the agency.

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Notice is hereby given that a license, no. 1276250 has been applied for by DJJM Group LLC to sell beer, wine at retail under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law, at a Pizza Restaurant located at 558 Driggs Ave, Brooklyn NY 11211, for on-premises consumption.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/31/2014, bearing Index Number NC-000349-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Lucas (Last) Ye. My present name is (First) Qi Fan (Last) Ye (infant). My present address is 639 - 58th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220-. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is September 19, 2009.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/27/2014, bearing Index Number NC-000341-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Juan (Middle) Rafael (Last) Matute. My present name is (First) Juan R Matute AKA Juan Rafael Matute. My present address is 218 21st Street Brooklyn, NY 11232. My place of birth is Honduras. My date of birth is July 15, 1951.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/27/2014, bearing Index Number NC-000344-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Shaneace (Middle) Lavelle (Last) Sharpe. My present name is (First) Shaneace (Middle) Latanya (Last) Brownlee aka Sha, Neace Lantanya Brownlee aka Shaneace L. Brownlee. My present address is 3215 Avenue H, Brooklyn, NY 11210. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is July 03, 1980.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/27/2014, bearing Index Number NC-000338-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Carlos (Middle) Andres (Last) Garcia. My present name is (First) Carlos (Middle) Andres (Last) Garcia Peralta AKA Carlos Andres Garcia. My present address is 330 41st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232. My place of birth is Dominican Republic. My date of birth is August 14, 1990.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 03/27/2014, bearing Index Number NC-000337-14/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Chris (Middle) Shan (Last) Yang. My present name is (First) Chin (Middle) Shan (Last) Yang AKA Chin S Yang. My present address is 2159 Brown Street, Brooklyn, NY 11229-5112. My place of birth is Guangdong China. My date of birth is July 25, 1981.

Muchmore's Cafe, LLC d/b/a Muchmore's has applied for a Sidewalk Cafe Permit for the property at 2 Havemeyer Street, Brooklyn, New York. A hearing will be held before the Department of Consumer Affairs at 66 John Street, 11th Floor on April 23, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Request for copies of the proposed revocable consent agreement may be addressed to: Department of Consumer Affairs: Attn: FOIL Officer, 42 Broadway, New York NY 10004.

Bus. Opp.

MISC. BUS OPP.

INTENT TO AWARD

NOTICE OF A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING of the Franchise and Concession Review Committee and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to be held on Monday, April 7, 2014 at 22 Reode Street, Borough of Manhattan, commencing at 2:30 p.m. relative to:

INTENT TO AWARD as a concession the renovation, operation, and maintenance of parking facilities at MCU Park in Steeplechase Park, Coney Island, Brooklyn for one (1) one (1) year term with four (4) one-year renewal options,exercisable at Parks' sole discretion, to Surf Avenue Parking, LLC. Compensation to the City will be as follows: Year 1: \$126,500; Year 2 (if option exercised) \$132,825; Year 3 (if option exercised) \$139,466; Year 4 (if option exercised) \$146,440; Year 5 (if option exercised) \$153,762.

LOCATION: A draft copy of the permit agreement may be reviewed or obtained at no cost, commencing March 31, 2014, through April 7, 2014, between the hours of 9am and 5pm, excluding weekends and holidays at the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, located at 830 Fifth Avenue, Room 313, New York, NY 10065.

Individuals requesting Sign Language Interpreters should contact the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, Public Hearings Unit, 253 Broadway, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10007, (212) 788-7490, no later than SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

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